Low Productivity in Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Fishery Sectors

1556. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) factors identified for the very low productivity in the agricultural, animal husbandry and fishery sectors in the North-Eastern Region specially Assam despite having maximum potential to develop the same; and

(b) action contemplated to mitigate those alongwith specific plan of action?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) The important reasons for very low productivity of agricultural, animal husbandry and fishery sectors in North-Eastern Region (NER) including Assam are as below:

— Adverse geographical and agro climatic conditions.

— Non adoption of modern technologies and cultivation practices.

— Poor genetic makeup and low productivity of animals (cows and buffalo).

— Non availability of nutritious feed and fodder.

— Lack of adequate animal health care facilities.

— High cost of inputs required for aquaculture due to non availability of local material.

— Non participation of States in NER in all central sector/ centrally sponsored schemes and poor utilisation of funds released.

(b) The Government of India, Ministry of Agriculture has been implementing several central sector/centrally sponsored schemes in NER to supplement the efforts of the State Governments for achieving the accelerated growth and development of agriculture, animal husbandry and fisheries sectors. Under these schemes, the Ministry has released Rs. 59.73 crores and Rs. 81.18 crores to States in NER including Assam during 1997-98 and 1998-99 respectively.

Besides, the Ministry has contributed Rs. 75.68 crores to the Non-lapsable central pool of resources, created by the Government during 1998-99 for implementation of projects for the development of NER including Assam.

Supply of DMS Milk

1557. SHRIMATI MALTI SHARMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of milk supplied to the Booth No. 291, near CGHS dispensary at Laxmibai Nagar, New Delhi;

(b) whether Government are aware that the supply is inadequate to meet the demand; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to increase the supply of milk alongwith the steps taken to streamline the distribution system which is presently resulting in long queues?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): (a) At present Delhi Milk Scheme is supplying 300 litres of milk at depot no. 291 situated near CGHS dispensary at Laxmibai Nagar.

(b) Milk is being supplied not only by Delhi Milk Scheme but by other organisations including Mother Dairy and private suppliers. No report has been received regarding the inadequacy of the availability of milk to meet the demand.

(c) The sale price of DMS toned milk is nearly half that of the same quality of milk supplied by Mother Dairy and other private suppliers. Hence there is always a heavy demand on DMS milk. The DMS is meeting approximately 12% of the total demand in Delhi and it is not possible to increase the supply level due to capacity and budgetary constrainsts.

Mother Dairy Milk Booth

1558. SHRIMATI MALTI SHARMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that a large number of Central Government employees are residing at Sector-17, Vasundhara, Ghaziabad, U.P. and have been facing acute shortage of milk because there is no Mother Dairy milk booth at this area;